CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1 (currently amended): A method of providing electrical pulses to one or both vagus nerve(s) and/or its branches of a patient to provide therapy for at least one of atrial fibrillation, congestive heart failure, or inappropriate sinus tachycardia, comprising the steps of:

providing a pulse generator system, wherein said pulse generator system is ~~one of, an implanted stimulus-receiver used with an external stimulator; an implanted stimulus-receiver comprising a high value capacitor for storing charge used with an external stimulator; a programmer-less implantable pulse generator (IPG) which is operable with a magnet; a programmable implantable pulse generator;~~ a combination implantable device comprising both a stimulus-receiver and a programmable implantable pulse generator (IPG), wherein said stimulus-receiver receives stimulus pulses and is capable of applying said stimulus pulses independently of said implantable pulse generator (IPG); ~~or an IPG comprising a rechargeable battery;~~

providing at least one predetermined program stored in memory to control the output of said pulse generator system, wherein said predetermined program define a combination of programmable parameters;

providing an implanted lead(s) in electrical contact with said implanted pulse generator, wherein said implanted lead(s) comprising at least one electrode adapted to be in contact with said vagus nerve(s);

providing a programmer for activating and/or programming said pulse generator system;

selectively choosing and/or programming said at least one predetermined program to emit electrical pulses to said vagus nerve(s),

whereby therapy is provided for one of said atrial fibrillation, congestive heart failure, or inappropriate sinus tachycardia.

2-4 (canceled)

5 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said external stimulator further comprises telemetry unit for networking.

6 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said programmer further comprises a telemetry unit for networking.

7 (previously presented): The method of claim 6, wherein said programmer means can be remotely operated over a wide area network such as the internet.

8 (canceled)

9 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said pulse generator system comprises an implantable pulse generator (IPG) with a recharging coil for recharging the implantable pulse generator using an external power source.

10-12 (canceled)

13 (currently amended): A method of providing therapy for congestive heart failure (CHF) using electrical pulses to a vagus nerve, comprising the steps of:

providing a pulse generator system, wherein said pulse generator system is one of, ~~an implanted stimulus-receiver used with an external stimulator; an implanted stimulus-receiver comprising a high value capacitor for storing charge used with an external stimulator; a programmer-less implantable pulse generator (IPG) which is operable with a magnet;~~ a programmable implantable pulse generator (IPG); a combination implantable device comprising both a stimulus-receiver and a programmable IPG; or an IPG comprising a rechargeable battery;

providing at least two predetermined/pre-packaged programs stored in memory of said pulse generator system to control the output of said pulse generator system, wherein said predetermined/pre-packaged programs define a combination of programmable parameters;

providing an implanted lead(s) in electrical contact with said implanted pulse generator, wherein said implanted lead(s) comprising at least one electrode adapted to be in contact with said vagus nerve(s);

providing a programmer for activating and/or programming said pulse generator system, wherein said programmer further comprises telemetry circuitry for remote communication using a wide area network;

selectively choosing [[and/or programming said at least]] one predetermined/pre-packaged program to emit electrical pulses to said vagus nerve(s);

remotely communicating with said programmer for data exchange over a wide area network.

14-16 (canceled)

17 (previously presented): The method of claim 13, wherein said pulse generator system comprises an implantable pulse generator (IPG) with a recharging coil for recharging the implantable pulse generator using an external power source.

18 (currently amended): A method to increase cardiac parasympathetic tone in a patient using pulsed electrical stimulation to a vagus nerve(s), comprising the steps of:

providing a pulse generator system, wherein said pulse generator system is one of, ~~an implanted stimulus-receiver used with an external stimulator; an implanted stimulus-receiver comprising a high value capacitor for storing charge used with an external stimulator; a programmer-less implantable pulse generator (IPG) which is operable with a magnet;~~ a programmable implantable pulse generator (IPG); a combination implantable device comprising both a stimulus-receiver and a programmable IPG; or an IPG comprising a rechargeable battery;

providing at least two [[one]] predetermined/pre-packaged programs to control the output of said pulse generator system, wherein said predetermined pre-packaged program define a combination of programmable parameters;

providing an implanted lead(s) in electrical contact with said implanted pulse generator, wherein said implanted lead(s) comprising at least one electrode adapted to be in contact with said vagus nerve(s);

providing a programmer for activating and/or programming said pulse generator system;

selectively choosing [[and/or programming said at least]] one predetermined pre-packaged program to emit electrical pulses to said vagus nerve(s),

whereby cardiac parasympathetic tone is increased with electrical stimulation to a vagus nerve.

19 (canceled)

20 (previously presented): The method of claim 18, wherein said programmer is remotely operated via the internet.

21 (previously presented): The method of claim 18, wherein said stimulator can be remotely controlled over a wireless wide area network.

22 (previously presented The method of claim 18, wherein said pulse generator system comprises an implantable pulse generator (IPG) with a recharging coil for recharging the implantable pulse generator using an external power source.

23-32 (canceled)

33 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said pulse generator system can further be remotely interrogated and/or programmed.

34 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said pulse generator system further provides rate control for atrial fibrillation.

35 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said pulse generator system further provides rate control for inappropriate sinus tachycardia.

36 (previously presented): The method of claim 10, wherein said pulse generator system further provides rate control for atrial fibrillation.

37 (previously presented): The method of claim 10, wherein said pulse generator system further provides rate control for inappropriate sinus tachycardia.

38 (previously presented): The method of claim 10, wherein said pulse generator system can further be remotely interrogated and/or programmed.

39 (canceled)

40 (previously presented): The method of claim 13, wherein said pulse generator system can further be remotely interrogated and/or programmed.

41-42 (canceled)

43 (previously presented): The method of claim 18, wherein said pulse generator system can further be remotely interrogated and/or programmed.

44 (previously presented): The method of claim 18, wherein said pulse generator system further provides rate control for atrial fibrillation.

45 (previously presented): The method of claim 18, wherein said pulse generator system further provides rate control for inappropriate sinus tachycardia.

46 (new): A method of providing electrical pulses to one or both vagus nerve(s) and/or its branches of a patient to provide therapy for at least one of atrial fibrillation, or inappropriate sinus tachycardia, comprising the steps of:

providing a pulse generator system, wherein said pulse generator system is ~~one of, an implanted stimulus-receiver comprising a high value capacitor for storing charge used with an external stimulator; a programmer-less implantable pulse generator (IPG) which is operable with a magnet;~~ a programmable implantable pulse generator (IPG); a combination implantable device comprising both a stimulus-receiver and a programmable IPG; or an IPG comprising a rechargeable battery;

providing at least one predetermined pre-packaged program to control the output of said pulse generator system, wherein said predetermined pre-packaged program define a combination of programmable parameters;

providing an implanted lead(s) in electrical contact with said implanted pulse generator, wherein said implanted lead(s) comprising at least one electrode adapted to be in contact with said vagus nerve(s);

providing a programmer for activating and/or programming said pulse generator system; and

selectively choosing one predetermine/pre-packaged program to emit electrical pulses to said vagus nerve(s),

whereby therapy is provided for one of said atrial fibrillation, or inappropriate sinus tachycardia.

47 (canceled)

48 (new): The method of claim 46, wherein said pulse generator system can further be remotely interrogated and/or programmed.